



December 15, 2024

*Registered Members of the Airdrie Black Community (ABC)
Airdrie, Alberta*

Dear Registered Members:

**RE: Summary of the ABC December 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM)
7:00 P.M. – 8:20 PM (Mountain Time) on Sunday, December 15, 2024
Held virtually through Zoom**

Airdrie Black Community AGM Progress

Akin Akinniyi, Vice President of the ABC welcomed everyone to the Airdrie Black Community's official AGM, emphasizing the progress made since the organization's inception in 2000. He shared a story about a woman who received help through the ABC Whatsapp group, highlighting the ripple effect of such stories. Yemisi Akaahs, the ABC Secretary, then presented the director's report for the period August 1st, 2023 to December 15th, 2024. She highlighted the ABC's core mission, the board and management structure, and the various events and programs held during the period. Yemisi also expressed gratitude to the volunteers and encouraged others to join the Events Committee. She concluded by mentioning the need for annual membership dues to support the community and its initiatives.

Election Process for Black Community

The election process for the ABC's board positions was explained. Sunday Adeleye, the Election Administrator, explained that two candidates have stepped up for the roles of President and Public Relations Officer, but three other positions remain vacant. He encourages community members to participate and run for the open positions, to be elected at a special meeting of members once adequate expressions of interest are received for the vacant positions. Sunday outlined the voting rules at the AGM, including the requirement for candidates to receive over 50% of votes to win. He also introduced the election committee members overseeing the process. Yemisi then encouraged attendees to log in and start voting.

Airdrie Black Community Financial Report

Temitope Olukunle, the Head and Vice President for Finance, presented the financial report for the Airdrie Black Community. He highlighted the establishment of a finance committee and the adoption of a procurement policy. Temitope also discussed the transition from ATB to Service Credit Union for banking services. He presented the financial statements for 2022, 2023, and the current year, noting an improvement in the community's financial status. Temitope expressed gratitude to the board, management, and community members for their support and emphasized the community's commitment to growth and

BOARD

KOOMSON FERGUSON <i>Chairman</i>	SIMISOLA OBASAN <i>President</i>	AKIN AKINNIYI <i>Vice President</i>	YEMISI AKAAHS <i>Secretary</i>	SUNDAY ADELEYE <i>Treasurer</i>
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MANAGEMENT

TEMITOPE OLUKUNLE <i>VP Finance</i>	COLLIA BARNABY <i>VP Sales & Revenue</i>	OLUKEMI DANIEL-OJO <i>VP Communication & Events</i>	DIXON USEN <i>VP Technologies</i>	OLA IFIDON <i>VP Strategy & Advisory</i>
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LEIGHTON MCLEAN <i>VP Administration</i>	KWABENA OTCHERE <i>Member, Strategy & Advisory</i>
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financial improvement. He also clarified that the community has not taken any grants since its inception, with all funds coming from private contributions and partnerships.

Implementing Membership Dues for Stability

Temitope Olukunle presented a proposal for implementing membership dues to support the activities and initiatives of the Airdrie Black Community, on behalf of Collia Barnaby, Head and Vice President for Sales and Revenue. The proposed dues would provide a foundation to fund key initiatives, build community resources, and achieve long-term financial stability. The benefits of the membership dues include supporting existing and future programs, building reserve funds to assist families in times of tragedy, and empowering members with benefits that promote individual and business success. The proposed membership tiers include individual and family memberships with monthly, quarterly, and annual payment schedules. The leadership team emphasized the importance of the membership dues in advancing the mission of the Airdrie Black Community and ensuring financial security for the community.

Membership Dues Proposal Discussion

Yemisi Akaahs opened the floor for discussion and input from the members. Kirk suggested a gradual implementation of the dues, starting with lower amounts and increasing over time. Sunday Nelly expressed a need for clarity on the budget and the number of members, while Roberta Ehigiator expressed gratitude for the organization's efforts and suggested a need for further discussion on the proposed dues. Roberta suggested pursuing charitable status for the organization to enable donations and corporate matching, rather than relying solely on membership dues. She also proposed reframing dues as a *membership fee with perks*.

Simisola Obasan, President of the Airdrie Black Community, explained the organization's membership growth and funding sources, emphasizing the need for a sustainable structure. Kirk recommended setting gradual, strategic membership fee targets aligned with budgeted activities, starting lower at \$5 per month, \$15 per quarter, and \$60 per annum, to attract more members initially and increasing over time as value is demonstrated.

However, some members, including Emmanuel Ededho, expressed concerns about the perception of the community if they started charging dues. They suggested that the proposed amount might be too high and could discourage newcomers, without first introducing them to the value the ABC adds to its members.

After a vote, the majority agreed to adopt the \$5 per month, \$60 per year proposal.

2025-2026 Term Election and Feedback

In the meeting, Sunday Adeleye, ABC Elections Administrator, announced the election results for the positions of President and Public Relations Officer, for the 2025-2026 term starting August 1, 2025, with Kirk Bolton and Ejadamen Ogidan elected as the ABC President and Public Relations Officer, respectively.

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Airdrie Black Community
Website: www.airdrieblackcommunity.ca
Email: info@airdrieblackcommunity.ca

Yemisi thanked the successful candidates and opened the floor for any other matters. Kirk expressed his appreciation for the support and anticipated continued hard work. Ejadamen thanked everyone for their votes and support. Simisola Obasan, the president, congratulated the elected candidates and thanked all attendees for their participation. She emphasized the importance of feedback and encouraged members to share their opinions and suggestions. The conversation ended with wishes for a Merry Christmas and a successful 2025.

If you are interested in being nominated for any office on the Board of Directors, or have any questions about the enclosed, please contact Yemisi Akaahs, Secretary, by email at info@airdrieblackcommunity.ca.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, we thank you for your membership and wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

YEMISI AKAAHS, Secretary

BOARD

**KOOMSON
FERGUSON**
Chairman

**SIMISOLA
OBASAN**
President

**AKIN
AKINNIYI**
Vice President

**YEMISI
AKAAHS**
Secretary

**SUNDAY
ADELEYE**
Treasurer

MANAGEMENT

**TEMITOPE
OLUKUNLE**
VP Finance

**COLLIA
BARNABY**
*VP Sales &
Revenue*

**OLUKEMI
DANIEL-OJO**
*VP Communication
& Events*

**DIXON
USEN**
VP Technologies

**OLA
IFIDON**
*VP Strategy
& Advisory*

**LEIGHTON
MCLEAN**
VP Administration

**KWABENA
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